



Department for  
Business & Trade



## Issue

A third of MSMEs face challenges accessing financial services and this challenge is particularly felt by Women-Owned MSMEs.

There is a \$300 billion credit gap between Male-Owned and Women-Owned MSMEs.

The UK conducted an independent review of female entrepreneurship identifying £250 billion of economic value if women started and scaled businesses at the same rate as men.

Untapped potential of Women-Owned MSMEs in the UK also exists globally.

# UK Investing in Women Code

A commitment to improving female entrepreneurs' access to tools, resources, and finance in the UK. The Code commits signatory financial services organisations to promoting female entrepreneurship by:

- Having a nominated member of the senior leadership team who will be responsible for supporting gender-equality;

- Increasing the transparency of financial services firms' data concerning support for female entrepreneurs; and

- Adopting internal practices to improve female entrepreneurs' access to finance.

# The Data

# Internationalisation



# Recommendations

## Share

Share with the MSME IWG their best practices of supporting Women-Owned MSMEs.

## Consider

Consider conducting an independent review of female entrepreneurship to identify initiatives to support their Women-Owned MSMEs.

## Explore

Explore establishing similar initiatives to the Investing in Women Code to support Women-access to tools, resources, and finance.

## Support

Support We-Fi in their development of The Women Entrepreneurs Finance Code.

# Discussion Points

01

Women-Owned MSMEs identified as the largest barriers to trade?

02

What steps have Members taken to address and tackle these barriers?

03

Based on these discussions by Members in the MSME IWG, would the Secretariat and Chair be open to producing a compendium of best practices on support for Women-Owned MSMEs?